**Financial Assistance to Tobacco Growers' Unions**

668. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will extend any financial assistance to tobacco growers unions in backward areas;

(b) whether it is a fact that such assistance will help farmers; and

(c) the measures proposed to involve growers' associations in better 'lab-to-land' transfers to latest knowledge?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Tobacco Board, which provide assistance to tobacco growers do not have any proposal, so far for extending financial assistance to tobacco growers' union/ associations in backward areas.

(c) The latest research findings of Central Tobacco Research Institute of Indian Council of Agriculture Research are being disseminated to tobacco growers through farmer's training and on {arm trials.

**Chromlte Mines in Orissa**

669. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number chromite mines in Orissa;

(b) the number of mines out of them which have been leased out to private parties and since when;

(c) the total hectares of chromite deposited areas in those mines and the name of persons running those mines;

(d) the total number of people approximately in those areas who have been given employment in those chromite mines; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (e) As per the information furnished by the State Government there are 19 (nineteen) chromite mines in Orissa. Out of these 9 (nine) mines have been granted to private parties. Approximately 5626 number of persons have been given employment in these private mines. Other details are given in the table below:—

| s. No. | Lessee | Area in Hectt. | Location | Date of grant of lease | Persons employed |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | M/s. ML. Mines (P) Ltd. | 259.000 | Saruabil | 15.5.1954 | 166 |
| 2. | M/s. TISCO | 1261.476 | Suidnda | 12.1.1953 | 922 |
| 3. | *M/s.* FACCR | 72.843 | Ostapal | 13.8.1985 | 252 |
| 4. | M/s. B.C. Mohanty A Sons (P)Ltd. | 107.240 | Kamarda | 22.2.1968 | 66 |
| 5. | M/s. IMFA | 26.620 | Chinguaipal | 25.2.1986 | Not working |
| 6. | M/s. M. Aikath | 50.650 | Ostapat | Not executed | Not working |
| 7. | M/s. FACCR | 184.030 | Baula | 10.2.1972 | 2874 |
| 8. | M/s. IMFA | 40.468 | Nuasahi | 8.5.1991 | 1110 |
| 9. | M/s. FACCR | 113.312 | Kathapal | 7.10.1972 | 186 |